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EXAMINER

VIG, NARESH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3629	

3629

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

This is in reference to response received on 10 July 2005 to the office action mailed on 24 March 2005. There are 17 claims, claims 1 – 10 and 31 – 37 pending for examination.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 – 10 and 31 – 37 are for amended claims which have been responded to in response to amended claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has not clearly defined proxy. In the application originally filed on 29 October 29, 2001, applicant recites "If in step 66 it is determined the new device has

Art Unit: 3629

been identified and authenticated, then in step 68 the gateway server 12 creates and registers a proxy for the device in a directory stored in gateway server 12. Gateway server 12 then returns to monitoring the local network 30 in step 60" [0019], and, "In step 88, the user can select a service from the list of available services, and in step 90 the remote device 50, via the registered proxy in gateway server 12, will invoke the selected service of the associated device in local network 30 via network 14, gateway server 12 and a wireless communication with the associated device of system 10" [0020].

In an article "Proxy Server Basics", HomeNetHelp teaches that a proxy server is a program that acts as an intermediary between computers on your LAN and computers on the Internet. Proxy servers often have a cache built in to make web surfing faster. Some proxy servers also allow the filtering of web content or domains. Additionally, almost all proxy servers support logging. Just like other internet connection sharing technologies, only one internet connection or internet IP address is needed to serve internet data to all of the workstations on your home network.

In an article "Ask the Advisor", Advisor teaches that a proxy server is a piece of software that acts as a middleman for network communication, filtering the data being sent. Proxies are often used to reroute or modify network traffic. A proxy can reside on a user's machine or on a remote server machine. In the case of AdSubtract, the proxy resides on the user's own machine, and the user's web browser communicates with it without the information ever leaving the user's computer.

Art Unit: 3629

In an article, "Setting Up A Proxy Server On Linux", Wireski teaches that many people have heard the term proxy server but don't know how it can benefit them. We all know the value of a good firewall. Some of you might even be using a firewall proxy to make life easier. A proxy server is a program that accepts requests from a client, such as a Web browser or FTP client, and forwards the request to the appropriate Internet server. It's transparent to the end user beyond the initial setup of the proxy. This method is often used when a number of computers sit physically behind another computer, which is in turn connected to the Internet. This configuration allows all of the computers simultaneous access to the Internet through one specific computer, typically the firewall or proxy server.

In a memo "SIP: Session Initiation Protocol – Locating SIP Servers", IETF teaches that an outbound proxy can be configured by any mechanism, including DHCP [3] and can be specified either as a set of parameters such as network address or host name, protocol port and transport protocol, or as a SIP URI.

Applicant has not clearly defined the capability of the Proxy Server used in the invention.

Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has not disclosed status report. Is it an output on a printer, status light on a device etc.

Appropriate correction is requested. In response to this office action, applicant should add the statement "No New Matter Has Been Added".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 – 10 and 31 – 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Le Carpentier US Patent 4,752,950) in view of Lee US Patent 5,657,689, and further in view of an Article "Wireless Networking Review" by Ken Sinclair hereinafter known as Sinclair.

Regarding claims 1, 31 and 33, LeCarpentier teaches a mailing system.

LeCarpentier teaches:

a plurality of devices associated with mail preparation, each of said plurality of devices adapted to communicate with other of said plurality of devices via a wireless communication [Fig. 1 and disclosure associated with Fig. 1];

Art Unit: 3629

a gateway server adapted to communicate with each of said plurality of devices [Fig. 1 and disclosure associated with Fig. 1].

LeCarpentier does not teach wireless communication network for LAN. However, Lee teaches one or more postal processing machine interconnected by a local area radio frequency (RF) wireless communication network.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify LeCarpentier as taught by Lee to provide mobility to users (one of the benefits of wireless is mobility).

LeCarpentier in view of Lee teaches gateway server being coupled to a communication network, gateway server and plurality of devices forming a local network [LeCarpentier, Fig. 1 and disclosure associated with Fig. 1].

LeCarpentier in view of Lee does not teach gateway server acting as a master of local network, each of said plurality of devices communicating with another of said plurality of devices via a wireless communication through said gateway server. However, Sinclair teaches gateway server acting as a master of local network, each of said plurality of devices communicating with another of said plurality of devices via a wireless communication through said gateway server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify LeCarpentier in view of Lee as taught by Sinclair to use dynamic addressing of devices in the local area network.

LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches a remote device coupled to communication network, remote device communicating with gateway server via

Art Unit: 3629

communication network, gateway server creating a proxy for each of said plurality of devices (Sinclair teaches DHCP) in said local network (using only one internet connection or internet IP address to serve internet data to all of the workstations on your network).

wherein a service of at least one of said plurality of devices can be invoked by said remote device utilizing said created proxy for said at least one of said plurality of devices (using only one internet connection or internet IP address to serve internet data to all of the workstations on your network).

LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches selecting services associated with registered mailing devices (device active on a LAN, user who wants to print will select print job) via communication between remote device and gateway server.

LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches invoking selected service via proxy by remote device (e.g. printing on the printer wireless connected on a LAN).

Regarding claims 2 and 32, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches wireless communications are radio frequency communications.

Regarding claim 3, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches radio frequency communications are automatically established (Sinclair teaches DHCP).

Regarding claims 4 – 7 and 35 – 36, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches plurality of type of devices (laptop, desktop, printer) connected wireless on a

Art Unit: 3629

LAN. Therefore, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches devices to include a scale, a postage meter, mail processing machine, a personal computer (design choice to decide what type of devices should to connected to a LAN to meet business requirements).

Regarding claim 8, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches a data center coupled to a said communication network, wherein gateway server communicates with data center via said communication network, said data center receiving data from and sending data to at least one of said plurality of devices via said communication network, said gateway server, and a wireless communication between said gateway server and said at least one of said plurality of devices.

Regarding claim 9, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches communication network is a public switched telephone network (Sinclair teaches modem to connect to internet via plurality of type communication connectivity like, cable, DLS)

Regarding claims 10 and 34, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches communication network is the Internet.

Art Unit: 3629

Regarding claim 37, LeCarpentier in view of Lee and Sinclair teaches a status report (Sinclair teaches that its gateway provided status through lights). How status is provided to a user is a design choice.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 CFR '1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this office action.

1. Ken Sinclair, Wireless Networking Review
2. SIP: Session Initiation Protocol – Locating SIP Servers
3. Dave Wireski, Setting Up A Proxy Server On Linux
4. What Is A Proxy Server
5. Karin Wikoff, Should Your Library Go Wireless
6. IBM Communication Server For Windows NT, Version 5.0
7. D-Link DI-704 User Manual

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Art Unit: 3629


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naresh Vig whose telephone number is (571) 272-6810. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 6:00 (Wednesday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

October 28, 2005


Naresh Vig
Examiner